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NO. 112
OCT.

IN THE INFINITE DARKNESS THEY ARE WAITING!

MYSTERY IN SPACE

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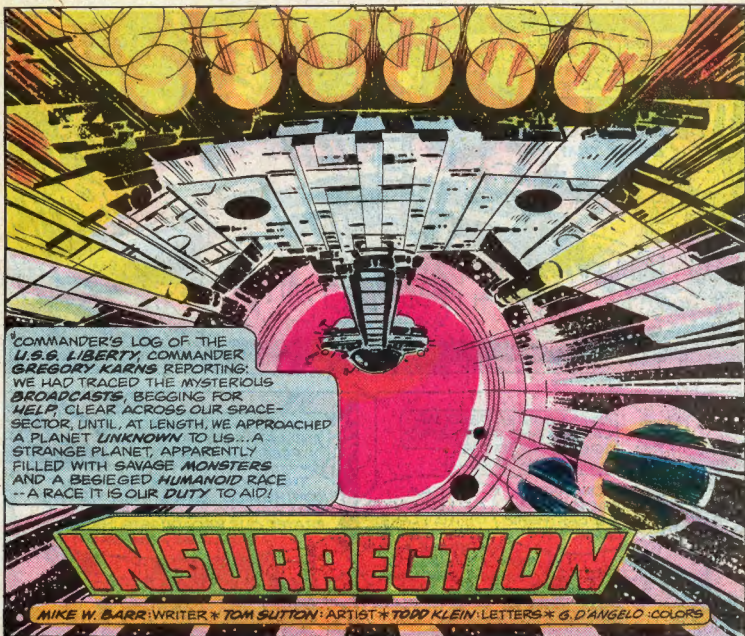
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COMMANDER'S LOG OF THE
U.S.S. LIBERTY, COMMANDER
GREGORY KARNS REPORTING:
WE HAD TRACED THE MYSTERIOUS
BROADCASTS, BEGGING FOR
HELP, CLEAR ACROSS OUR SPACE-
SECTOR, UNTIL, AT LENGTH, WE APPROACHED
A PLANET UNKNOWN TO US... A
STRANGE PLANET, APPARENTLY
FILLED WITH SAVAGE MONSTERS
AND A BEGIEGED HUMANOID RACE
-- A RACE IT IS OUR DUTY TO AID!

INSURRECTION

MIKE W. BARR: WRITER * TOM SUTTON: ARTIST * TODD KLEIN: LETTERS * G. D'ANGELO: COLORS

"MY SECOND-IN-COMMAND, MR.
RAND, TRACED THE LAST
TRANSMISSION AND -- LT. BLAKE
AND I AWAITED VISUAL CONTACT.

ESTABLISHING
VISUAL NOW,
COMMANDER--
PICTURE SHOULD
COALESCE IN 3.4
SECONDS!



"THE SCREEN CAME ALIVE--AND BROUGHT A
SCENE OF HORROR TO OUR EYES!

MR. RAND!
TRACE SIGNAL
IMMEDIATELY!

AYE, AYE,
COMMANDER!



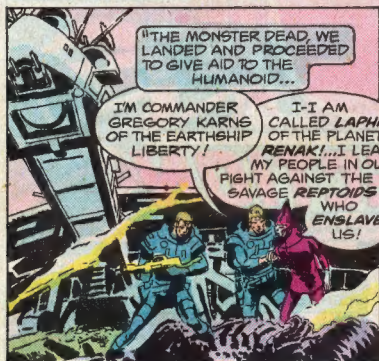
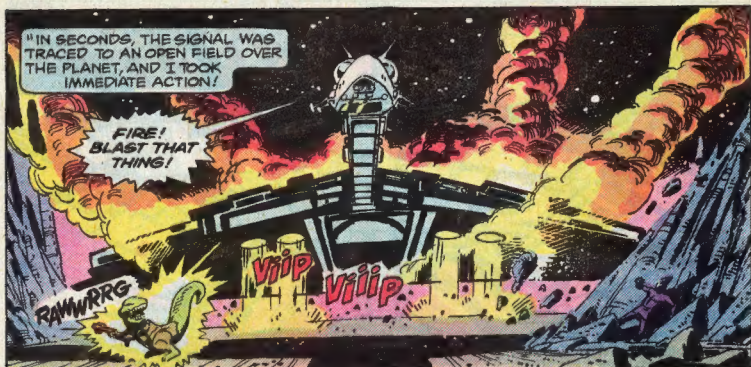
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"THE MONSTER DEAD, WE LANDED AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE AID TO THE HUMANOID..."

I'M COMMANDER GREGORY KARNS OF THE EARTHSHIP LIBERTY!

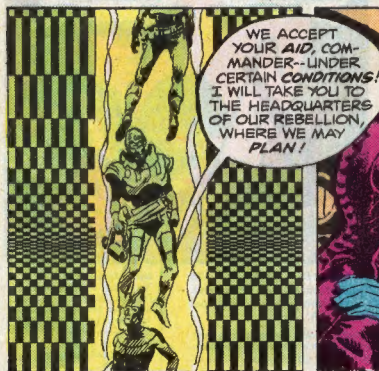
I-I AM CALLED LAPHR OF THE PLANET RENAK!...I LEAD MY PEOPLE IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST THE SAVAGE REPTOIDS WHO ENSLAVE US!



"WE TOOK HIM ABOARD, AND LAPHR EXPLAINED HIS PEOPLE'S FLIGHT..."

THE REPTOIDS CAME FROM SPACE MONTHS AGO...SINCE THEN, WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE...I PRAYED OUR BROADCASTS INTO SPACE WOULD BE ANSWERED!

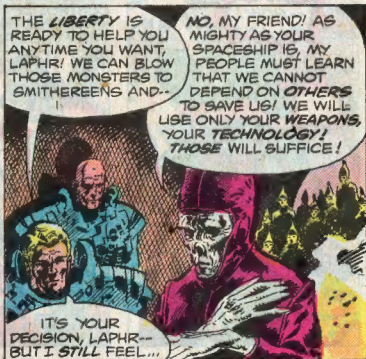
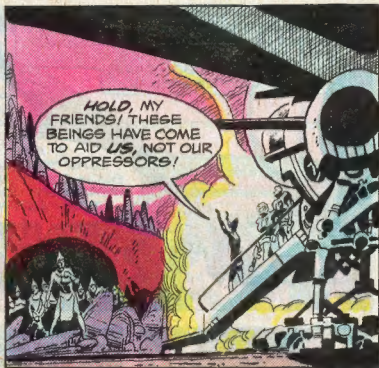
OUR EARTHSHIP CAN LAY WASTE TO A MOON, LAPHR! WE'LL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU FIGHT THOSE DISGUSTING REPTOIDS!



WE ACCEPT YOUR AID, COMMANDER--UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS! I WILL TAKE YOU TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF OUR REBELLION, WHERE WE MAY PLAN!



ANY HELP YOU WANT, LAPHR, YOU'VE GOT IT! WE HUMANS HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER!



COMMANDER'S LOG: WITH THE LIBERTY IN ORBIT AROUND RENAK, WE CROUCHED IN THE TALL GRASS OUTSIDE THE REPTOIDS' PRISON CAMP, AWAITING LAPHR'S SIGNAL.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE GATES, LAPHR! OUR TENSORS CAN MELT RIGHT THROUGH THOSE THINGS!

I AM GLAD YOU PLACE SUCH CONFIDENCE IN YOUR WEAPONRY, COMMANDER KARNS! FOR WE ATTACK--



--NOW!

"IT WASN'T MUCH OF A FIGHT, BUT IT FELT GOOD, NONETHELESS! WE WERE HELPING FELLOW HUMANS REGAIN CONTROL OF THEIR PLANET, WRESTING THEIR FREEDOM FROM THE HANDS OF THE MONSTERS!"



"AND IF A FEW OF THE REPTOIDS HAD TO DIE, TOO--"



"--THAT WAS THE WAY IT BROKE!"

THAT'S STEP NUMBER ONE OVER, LAPHR! THE REPTOIDS SURE DIDN'T PUT UP MUCH OF A FIGHT, THOUGH! ALMOST AS IF--

--AS IF THEY WERE TRYING NOT TO HURT US, SIR?

YOU ARE TRULY BEINGS OF PEACE, MY FRIENDS--YOU TAKE UP THE WARRIOR'S CLUB AS YOUR LAST RESORT!



A NIGHT'S REST WILL DO US ALL A WORLD OF GOOD-- AND TOMORROW...

...TOMORROW WE SHALL PLAN, AND STRIKE AGAIN!





It's the newest Number Yum.
It blows big
beautiful bubbles.
And the yummy flavor lasts
a long, long, loooong time.



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and SUGARLESS.

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"COMMANDER'S LOG: OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS, WE WERE EVERYWHERE..."



"...STRIKING FOR HUMAN FREEDOM ALL OVER THE PLANET RENAK!"



"THIS WAS THE PROLDEST MOMENT OF MY COMMAND!"



"BUT THE MOST CRUCIAL MOMENT WAS YET TO COME!"

"...AND OUR CONTINUAL ATTACKS HAVE SO UNDERMINED THE INVADERS OF OUR PLANET, MY FRIENDS, THAT THEY HAVE DECLARED TOMORROW AS A RALLY DAY, TO GARNER PUBLIC SUPPORT AGAINST US!"

"AND YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE THE PERFECT PLACE TO BREAK THE SPINE OF THEIR MORALE ONCE AND FOR ALL? SOUNDS GOOD TO ME! WHAT DO YOU SAY, MR. RAND?"

"INDEED, COMMANDER--A MOST LOGICAL CHOICE!"

"ALL OVER THE PARADE ROUTE, OUR CONCEALED FORCES ATTACKED! OF COURSE, THE REPTOIDS THOUGHT WE MIGHT TRY SOMETHING--"



"--BUT EVEN SO, WE TOOK THEM TOTALLY OFF-GUARD!"

"THAT NIGHT, WE HID IN A TREE LAPHR KNEW TO BE ON THE PARADE ROUTE OF THE REPTOIDS' LEADER! SO THE NEXT DAY--"

"--WE WERE READY!"

"SURRENDER, REPTOIDS--IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM!"

"NOW, MY BROTHERS--ATTACK!"

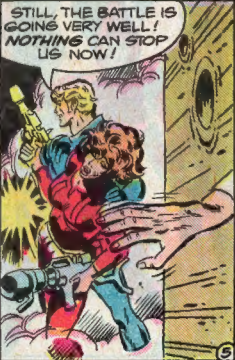


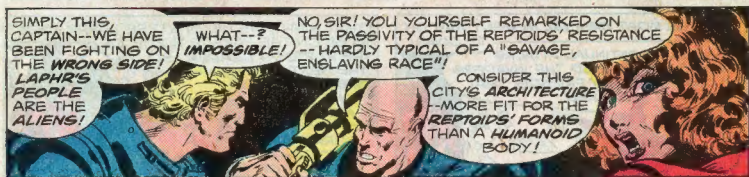
"IT'S GOING WELL, CHERYL--BUT I WISH WE COULD HAVE USED THE LIBERTY!"



"YESSIR! OUR CASUALTIES WOULD BE EVEN LOWER WITH THE EARTHSHIP ON OUR SIDE!"

"STILL, THE BATTLE IS GOING VERY WELL! NOTHING CAN STOP US NOW!"







THIS SEVERED ARM, WHICH I SUFFERED IN COMBAT, WILL BE WHOLE IN A MATTER OF HOURS! BUT YOU WILL NOT BE SO LUCKY!

COMMANDER
--CONTACT SHIP
--CONDITION
RED--!



AARRRGH!

A FOOLISH SACRIFICE, MR. RAND! DON'T MOVE, COMMANDER --I ASSURE YOU, MY AIM IS NO LESS EFFECTIVE WITH ONLY ONE ARM!



IF I CAN JUST TOUCH THE RED EMERGENCY BUTTON IN MY BUCKLE...IT'LL ALERT THE LIBERTY...

BUT IF YOU'RE ALIENS...WHY DO YOU NEED OUR HELP...WHY WOULDN'T YOU LET US USE OUR SHIP IN COMBAT?

BUT THAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS, COMMANDER--



--OUR SHIP WAS DESTROYED IN BATTLE! WE COULDN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON LOSING YOUR SHIP AS WELL! IT'S OUR ONLY WAY OF FINDING OTHER PLANETS TO CONQUER!

NO!

AAAAA!

VERY FOOLISH, COMMANDER!



AND SECONDS LATER, ON THE BRIDGE OF THE U.S.S. LIBERTY...

U.S.S. LIBERTY, MR. HANES SPEAKING!

MR. HANES, THIS IS LAPHIR, OF THE FREE RENAK PARTY. COMMANDER KARNS HAS BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVE--



--SUGGEST YOU LAND IMMEDIATELY! WE SHALL POOL OUR FORCES FOR VICTORY!

COMMANDER'S LOG: MY MANEUVRER WAS A SUCCESS! TODAY, RENAK--TOMORROW, EARTH...AND THE UNIVERSE! COMMANDER LAPHIR, SIGNING OFF!¹²

END

WONDERS of SPACE



L-612

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NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

As we hurry the second issue of the new *MYSTERY IN SPACE* to press, we find that, due to the advance scheduling we have, no letters concerning the first issue have been received. For that reason, we have no comments from you readers to print here on this page for this month. In fact, we already know that there will not be enough time for letters of comment to reach us concerning *MIS* #111 when #113 is ready to be shipped! But we're not going to be caught short next issue. What we have done is to make copies of the first new *MIS* and send them out to certain fans who have written us good letters in the past. We didn't choose fans whose letters are always filled with praise either. We wanted to get some critical words as well as some words of wonder, so we carefully went through the letter columns of the past and sent out these advance copies to a cross section of DC readers. Since we'll be hearing from them in just a week or two, we can prepare the *WONDERS OF SPACE* column for issue #113 very shortly—in plenty of time to avoid deadline problems.

In the meantime, we'd like for all of you to take pen in hand (or put fingers to typewriter) and let us know what you think of the stories and art that have appeared so far in the pages of *MYSTERY IN SPACE*. We'd like to hear what you have to say as soon as possible so that we can create the kinds of stories YOU like to read. Don't keep us waiting, okay?

Last time we talked briefly about the origin of the name *MYSTERY IN SPACE*. And we mentioned that this comic was the first of the science fiction / outer space comics. It has had a legendary history and we thought you would like to know just what and who have graced these pages in the past. When *MYSTERY IN SPACE* debuted in 1951, the cover feature was entitled *THE KNIGHTS OF THE GALAXY* and it starred LYLE, the Space Commando. The *KNIGHTS* were a group of dedicated soldiers from the various planets of the solar system who were the law and peace-keeping force of the 25th century. Their headquarters was an asteroid of human construction called *Gala*. No origin or inside information was ever given about these heroes, but they helped keep *MIS* alive for the first few years of its existence.

Another long-running *MYSTERY IN SPACE* feature was *SPACE CABBIE*. He was not originally intended as a series star, but after his appearance in a short story called "Space Taxi" in *MIS* #21, readers wanted more and more. He appeared in every issue from #26 to #47.

Another "accidental" series in *MIS* were "THE STAR ROVERS." These three "friendly enemies" were first introduced in a tale called "Who Caught the Loborilla" in *MIS* #68. The story told how a new alien beast (the Loborilla) has been spotted on an alien world and a reward was set for the explorer who could capture it and bring it back to Earth. Three famous Earthlings tried: Homer Glint, sportsman and novelist, Karel Sorensen, glamor queen and sportswoman, and Rick Purvis, galaxy-known sportsman. It turned out that the Loborilla was an intelligent alien from a distant galaxy and HE caught the three explorers. From then on, the three "Star Rovers" (as they were dubbed by readers) appeared in stories wherein a mystery was presented and they each came up with different solutions—often being totally wrong on all accounts.

But the greatest feature of them all—the one hero that brought *MYSTERY IN SPACE* into its own—was ADAM

STRANGE. Created in an Editorial meeting as an answer to the publisher's request for a "modern-day" science fiction hero (the other hero created at the same time was the "future" science fiction hero *SPACE RANGER*—who was also featured in *MYSTERY IN SPACE* for a brief time), ADAM STRANGE went on to become "popular when comics were not," as JULIE SCHWARTZ, the then-editor and co-creator of ADAM STRANGE, often stated.

Illustrated by Myke Sekowsky and written by Gardner Fox for a three-issue *SHOWCASE* tryout (the first two issues under the title of *ADVENTURES ON OTHER WORLDS*) ADAM soon moved to *MIS* as its cover feature where he was drawn by Carmine Infantino (and often) Murphy Anderson. It is said that these stories and this artwork was the best example of science fiction ever to hit the comics scene.

ADAM STRANGE can now be seen in every issue of *GREEN LANTERN*.

If you'd like to see a series in the new *MIS*, please drop us a line and let us know!

For two issues now we have been typing our fingers off telling you how great this comic used to be. But we believe that the NEW *MYSTERY IN SPACE* will be every bit as good—if not BETTER—than the old! Stay with us and you'll see what we mean. In the meanwhile, if you'd like to see what the old science fiction comics were REALLY like, rush to your bookstore and grab a copy of *MYSTERIES IN SPACE—THE BEST OF DC SCIENCE FICTION COMICS* edited by Michael Uslan. It's published by Fireside Books and contains over 200 pages of DC science fiction adventures including appearances by THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS, STAR HAWKINS, THE STAR ROVERS, SPACE CABBIE and ADAM STRANGE! Don't miss this one!

Remember! Next time it's letters from YOU!—Michael Carmichael

LEN'S LINE-UP

ON SALE JULY 10th:

THE FLASH #290—"Will You Believe Me When I'm Dead?" answers the questions about Barry's new and mysterious neighbor in a Cary Bates/Don Heck/Frank Chiaramonte tale. Plus: *Firestorm* reveals "The Secret History of the Nuclear Man" by Gerry Conway, George Perez and Bob Smith.

JUSTICE LEAGUE #183—It's the *JLA*, the *JSA* and the *New Gods* in a "Crisis on New Genesis, or Where Have All the New Gods Gone?" by Gerry Conway, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin.

WONDER WOMAN #272—The Amazing Amazon begins her new life in Washington and confronts "The Men With All the Angles" by Gerry Conway, Jose Delbo and Dave Hunt. Plus: *The Huntress* meets "The Monster and the Masterpiece" by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Steve Mitchell.

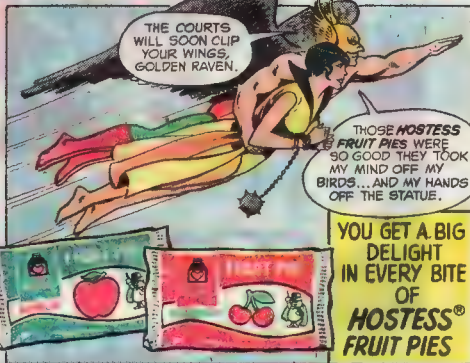
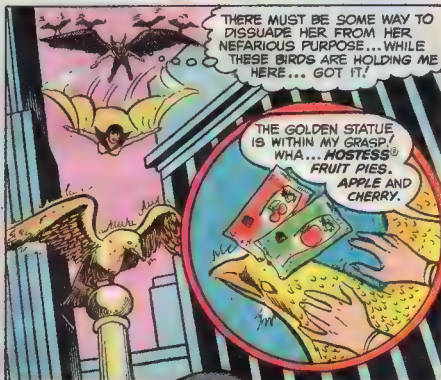
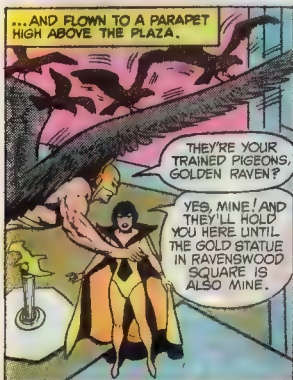
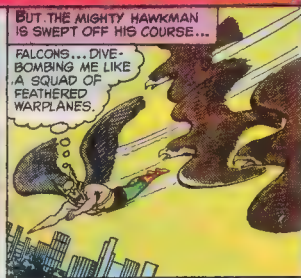
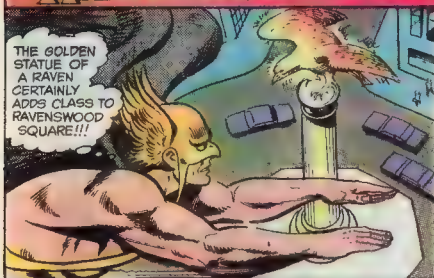
ON SALE JULY 24th:

HOUSE OF MYSTERY #285—Another thrilling collection of tales to send a chill down your spine on even the warmest of summer evenings.

UNKNOWN SOLDIER #244—*Captain Storm* joins the Faceless Warrior to slink "The Sub That Would Not Die" in a battle blockbuster by Bob Haney, Dick Ayers and Gerry Talbot. Plus: *The "Home Front"* is visited by Cary Burkett and Ric Estrada in *Dateline: Frontline* and Robert Kanigher and Tom Yeates tell you about "Big Daddy".

ADVENTURE COMICS #476—*Aquaman* swims into "The Poseidon Adventure" by J.M. DeMatteis and Dick Giordano; *Plastic Man* becomes "Disco Plas" by Marty Pasko, Joe Staton and Bob Smith; and *Starman* must choose "Crown of Coffin" by Paul Levitz, Steve Ditko and Romeo Tanghal.

HAWKMAN™ in "SHE'S NO ANGEL"



MAN HAS LONG LOOKED TO SPACE AS A PLACE OF MYSTERY, ADVENTURE, AND UNPARALLELED WONDER!

BUT FOR THE TIRED CREW OF THE SOLAR-POWERED UNITED EARTH SHIP LENIN, THERE IS ONLY ONE WORD THAT APTLY DESCRIBES THE GREAT VOID...

BORING!

I MUST'VE WATCHED THIS HOLO-CUBE TWO HUNDRED TIMES SINCE WE LEFT EARTH!

THIS IS NOT AN ENTERTAINMENT TRIP, LIEUTENANT DI IZZIO--THERE'S A WAR ON!

OH REALLY, CAPTAIN KARAMOZOVA? I HADN'T NOTICED!

JUST BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANY ACTION YET, DI IZZIO --DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE WON'T.

HOWL!

J.M. DE MATTEIS, WRITER
ALAN WEISS, ARTIST
TERRY AUSTIN, INKER
TODD KLEIN, LETTERS
ADRIENNE ROY, COLORS

AH, YES! THE EAGER YOUNG
ENSIGN BERKOWITZ IS
ONCE AGAIN STRAINING
AT THE BIT...

...HOPING TO WIN
A CHEST FULL OF
MEDALS BY DESTROYING
A FLEET OF ALIEN
INVADERS!

FACE IT, LITTLE
BOY--THE HO-AK-BE'ERS
MAY BE HELL-BENT ON
CONQUERING HALF OF
CIVILIZED
SPACE...

...BUT THIS
GOD-FORGAKEN
SECTOR WE'RE
PATROLLING ISN'T
VERY HIGH ON
THEIR
PRIORITY
LIST!

OH, I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
THAT,
LIEUTENANT...

...SCANNERS
INDICATE *SOME*
KIND OF CRAFT
COMING UP ON
US!

UHM...
SORRY,
CA--

OF COURSE, IF
YOU'D BEEN AT YOUR
STATION INSTEAD OF
WALTZING AROUND THE
BRIDGE--YOU'D KNOW
THAT ALREADY!

CAPTAIN...?

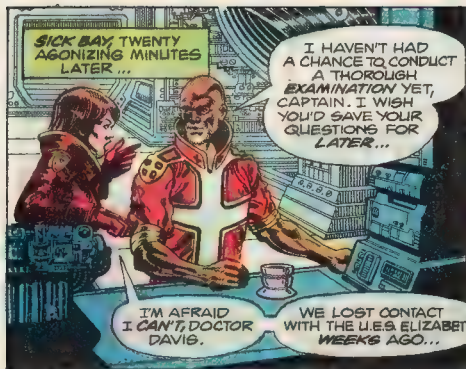
WE'VE MADE
VISUAL CONTACT
--AND IT'S NOT
AN ALIEN
VESSEL...

...IT'S ONE
OF OURS!

TO BE PRECISE,
THE TINY SHIP IS
A U.E.S. "LIFE-BOAT,"
A ONE-MAN SURVIVAL
SPHERE USED ONLY
WHEN ABANDONING
A HOPELESSLY DISABLED
STARSHIP.

AS THE LENIN'S MIGHTY TRACTOR-BEAMS
PULL IN THE FRAGILE CAPSULE, A WAVE OF
ANXIETY WASHES OVER HER CREW...

...THE REALITIES OF WAR, AT
LAST, HAVE COME TO GREET
THEM--AND THEY ARE NOT
CERTAIN JUST HOW THEY
FEEL ABOUT THAT.



SICK BAY, TWENTY
AGONIZING MINUTES
LATER ...

I HAVEN'T HAD
A CHANCE TO CONDUCT
A THOROUGH
EXAMINATION YET,
CAPTAIN. I WISH
YOU'D SAVE YOUR
QUESTIONS FOR
LATER ...

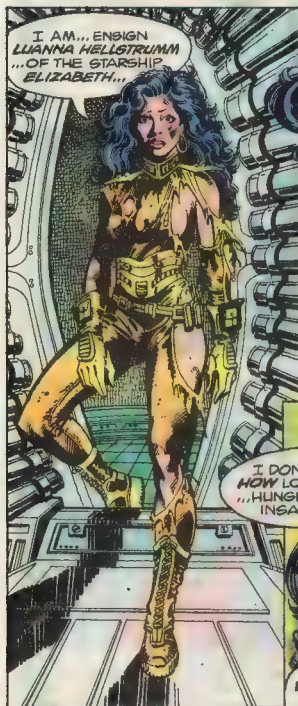
I'M AFRAID
I CAN'T, DOCTOR
DAVIS.

WE LOST CONTACT
WITH THE U.S.S. ELIZABETH
WEEKS AGO ...

IF YOUR PATIENT IS THE SOLE
SURVIVOR OF THAT SHIP, I'VE
GOT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!
IT'S VITAL TO OUR SECURITY--EH?



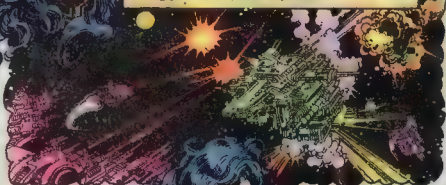
YOU SHALL
KNOW ALL,
CAPTAIN.



I AM... ENSIGN
LUANNA HELLSTRUM
... OF THE STARSHIP
ELIZABETH...



"OUR VESSEL WAS ATTACKED BY A
SQUADRON OF HO-AK-BEERS WAR-
SHIPS. THEY BLASTED US FOR
HOURS WITHOUT SURCEASE--THEN
LEFT US FOR DEAD.



BY SOME MIRACLE
I LIVED THROUGH
THAT HELL--AND
BOUGHT ESCAPE
IN ONE OF THE FEW
FUNCTIONING
SURVIVAL
SPHERES..."

I DON'T KNOW
HOW LONG I DRIFTED
...HUNGRY... HALF-
INSANE...



GLAD TO HAVE
YOU ABOARD,
ENSIGN.



... BUT I AM
VERY GLAD TO
BE HERE,
CAPTAIN...



BUT SONYA KARAMOZOVA'S
VOICE BETRAYS A VAGUE
LINEAGE. THERE'S SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS DARKLY BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN SHE DOES NOT
LIKE...

THE CAPTAIN'S APPREHENSION DOES NOT SPREAD BEYOND HER OWN TROUBLED HEART. IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS, LUANNA HELLSTRUMM PROVES A MOST CHARMING ADDITION TO THE LENIN'S SPACE-WEARY CREW...

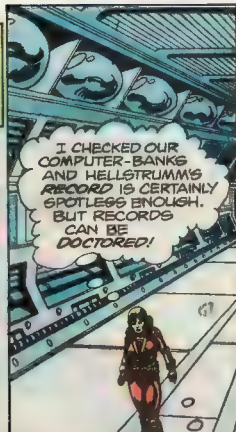


...AS MEN WHO--FOR TOO LONG--HAVE KNOWN ONLY THE MILITARY ALOOFNESS OF THEIR HARD-NOSED COMMANDER, BEGIN TO REMEMBER ANOTHER PART OF WHAT A WOMAN IS...

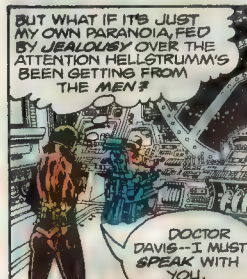


LOOK AT THEM--LIKE GOGGLE-EYED SCHOOLBOYS!

WHY CAN'T THEY SENSE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT WOMAN?

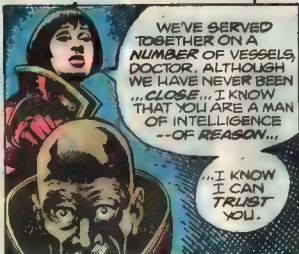


I CHECKED OUR COMPUTER-BANKS AND HELLSTRUMM'S RECORD IS CERTAINLY SPOTLESS ENOUGH. BUT RECORDS CAN BE DOCTORED!



BUT WHAT IF IT'S JUST MY OWN PARANOIA, FED BY JEALOUSY OVER THE ATTENTION HELLSTRUMM'S BEEN GETTING FROM THE MEN?

DOCTOR DAVIS--I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU.



WE'VE SERVED TOGETHER ON A NUMBER OF VESSELS, DOCTOR. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NEVER BEEN CLOSE... I KNOW THAT YOU ARE A MAN OF INTELLIGENCE --OF REASON...

...I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU.

AND IF THE ELIZABETH WAS WAYLAID BY THE HO-AK-BE'ERS, WHY HAVEN'T WE SEEN ANY SIGN OF THE ALIENS? IT DOESN'T PAN OUT, SOMEHOW...

I HAVE BEEN DEEPLY QUESTIONING MY OWN MOTIVATIONS THESE PAST DAYS AND I...

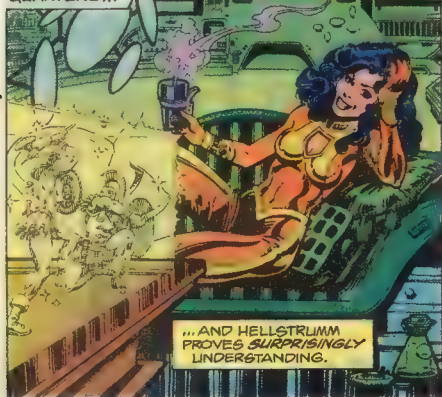


...DOCTOR...?!

BUT THERE IS NO REPLY SAVE FOR A SICKLY SILENCE...

...FOR WHEN DID THE DEAD EVER SPEAK?

FEARING THAT DOCTOR DAVIS' STRANGE DEATH HAS BEEN CAUSED BY AN UNDETECTABLE, UNKNOWN DISEASE BROUGHT ABOARD BY LUANNA HELLSTRUM, CAPTAIN KARAMOZOVA ORDERS THE ENSIGN CONFINED TO HER QUARTERS...



...AND HELLSTRUM PROVES SURPRISINGLY UNDERSTANDING.

BUT THIS ACTION DOES LITTLE TO SAVE LIEUTENANT DI IZZIO FROM A SIMILAR, GHASTLY FATE.



HE IS FOUND--LIKE THE DOCTOR--WITH TWO FESTERING SORES ON HIS CHEST...AND MISSING LARGE AMOUNTS OF BLOOD.

THE LENIN, IT SEEMS, HAS BECOME A PLAGUE SHIP--AND THERE IS LITTLE HER CAPTAIN CAN DO ABOUT IT...



NO ANSWER! I'D BETTER GET ONTO THE BRIDGE IN CASE ANYTHING'S...

LESS THAN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AND HELLSTRUM, BERKOWITZ, AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES LEFT ALIVE!

THE LEGENDS OF HER CHILDHOOD IN THE SOVIET UNION COME BACK TO HAUNT SONYA KARAMOZOVA--LEGENDS OF THE CREATURE HER GRANDMOTHER CALLED THE LUPIR...



...HAPPENED?

...THE VAMPIRE!

OUR SOLE HOPE IS TO GET THIS VESSEL ON COURSE FOR A U.E. STAR-FORT--AND FAST!

WHAT, CAPTAIN? NO CRIES OF SUPPLICATION TO A SUPREME DEITY?

AH, BUT I FORGET! TODAY MAN HAS REPLACED SPIRITUALITY WITH TECHNOLOGY--THERE IS NO ROOM FOR GODS ANY LONGER!

A PITY, DEAR CAPTAIN!

Richie Rich[®] IN FATHER KNOWS BEST

THE POOR LITTLE RICH BOY

HOW DID WE GET TO BE RICH, DAD?

AS A BOY, I SOLD GRIT. RICHIE...IT'S AMERICA'S ONLY NATIONAL FULL FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER. LOTS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE GOT THEIR START SELLING GRIT.

FOR EVERY 35¢ COPY YOU SELL, YOU KEEP 12¢... YOU CAN EARN YOUR OWN SPENDING MONEY EVERY WEEK

HERE RICHIE THIRTY FIVE CENTS

NOWADAYS YOU EARN PRIZES, TOO—MORE THAN 100 TO CHOOSE FROM. THE MORE PAPERS YOU DELIVER, THE NEATER THE PRIZES

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WANT TO EARN PRIZES AND CASH IN YOUR SPARE TIME? ALL IT TAKES IS A LITTLE GRIT

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Name

In Care of

Address

Town State ZIP

Age Date of Birth Month Day Year

☐ Male ☐ Female Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below



BUT WHY RUN, SONYA? WHY NOT ACCEPT MY KISS AS THOSE ON THE ELIZABETH DID?

B-BUT THE HO-AK-BE-ERS--?

OH YES--THE HO-AK-BE-ERS DID ATTACK OUR SHIP! BUT BY THEN EVERY MAN AND WOMAN ON BOARD WAS ALREADY DEAD!



OH COME NOW, CAPTAIN--DO YOU THINK A LOCKED DOOR COULD KEEP ME AWAY ...

...ANY MORE THAN IT COULD KEEP ME WITHIN MY QUARTERS?



MOVE AWAY FROM THE CONTROLS, MY DEAR ... IT IS TIME!



I AM IN COMMAND NOW... COMMAND OF YOUR ETERNAL SOUL!

YOU WILL LIKE BEING WHAT I AM, CAPTAIN. FOR HERE IN SPACE IT IS ALWAYS NIGHT-- ALWAYS THE HOUR OF BLOOD...

SUDDENLY, THE LENIN'S MIGHTY ENGINES ROAR INTO LIFE--SEND THE STARSHIP BARRELING THROUGH THE BLACK HEART OF SPACE...

N-NO, HELLSTRUMM ...YOU HAVEN'T WON...

...NOT YET-- YOU LIVING OBSCENITY! YOU'RE FINISHED, HELLSTRUMM! THE LENIN IS HEADED...

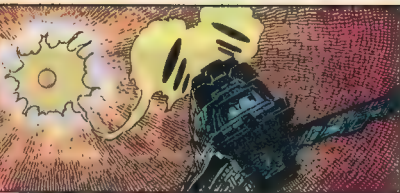


"...TO THE NEAREST SUN!"

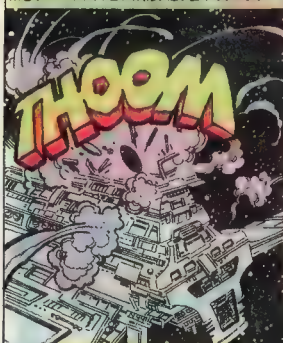


A SUN! AN ACCURSED SUN?! NOOOOO!

BUT, WORKING THE SHIP'S
CONTROLS LIKE THE DEMON
THAT SHE IS, LUANNA
HELLSTRUMM MANAGES TO
OVER-RIDE THE AUTO-PILOT
--TURN THE LENIN BACK...



...BUT AT A FORMIDABLE PRICE!



STRAINING AGAINST
THE PULL OF THE GREAT
STAR--DRIVING THE
SPACECRAFT AT SPEEDS
IT WAS NEVER MEANT
TO HANDLE--THE
LENIN'S ENGINES
BUCKLE AND DIE...

...AND--WITH ALL LIFE-SUPPORT
SYSTEMS GONE--CAPTAIN
KARAMOZOVA'S DEATH IS NOT
FAR BEHIND...



WE'RE L-LOST,
HELLSTRUMM
--IN A DEAD,
UNCHARTED
SECTOR OF
SPACE...

AND E-EVEN
IF YOU COULD
REPAIR THE
ENGINES--THEY'RE
SOLAR-POWERED
--Y-YOU'D NEED
A SUN TO REFUEL
THEM...

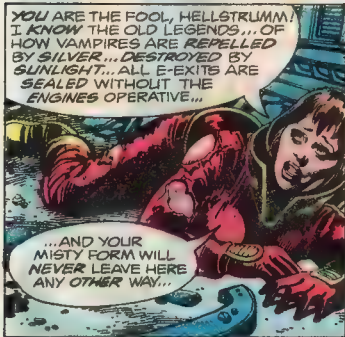
... THE
GAME IS
ENDED!..

I NEED YOUR
SHIP AS LITTLE
AS I NEED YOUR
LIFE--
SUPPORT!

FOOL!

I SHALL TRANSFORM
MYSELF INTO MIST AS I
DID BEFORE AND DRIFT
THROUGH THE VOID UNTIL I
FIND AN INHABITED WORLD
ON WHICH TO FEED...

YOU ARE THE FOOL, HELLSTRUMM!
I KNOW THE OLD LEGENDS...OF
HOW VAMPIRES ARE REPELLED
BY SILVER...DESTROYED BY
SUNLIGHT...ALL E-EXITS ARE
SEALED WITHOUT THE
ENGINES OPERATIVE...



...AND YOUR
MISTY FORM WILL
NEVER LEAVE HERE
ANY OTHER WAY...

...BECAUSE
THIS SHIP IS
MADE OF
SILVER!

AND
--SOMEWHERE IN
SPACE-- AN
UNDEAD THING...
HOWLS.

END

WILL THERE COME A TIME WHEN EVEN DEATH ITSELF CAN BE OVERCOME BY A...

RESTORATION

FLEEING CERTAIN PROSECUTION, A DESPERATE EMBETZLER DIRECTS HIS SPACE-SEDAN INTO UNCHARTED, UNPATROLLED STAR-LANES...

AS FAR AWAY FROM EARTH AS WE CAN GET, YLLA...

PIRG--DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING?

...BUT WHEREVER WE WIND UP, WE COULD'VE GONE A LOT FARTHER WITHOUT THE EXCESS BAGGAGE YOU FORCED ON ME!

YOU *KNOW* I HAD NO CHOICE, PIRG!

SURE--NO CHOICE!

THAT IDIOT SON OF YOURS HAS BEEN A BURDEN ON ME EVER SINCE I MARRIED YOU!



GEORGE KASHDAN, TREVOR VON EEDEN & BOB SMITH
Story Art

JOHN COSTANZA, ADRIENNE ROY
Letterer Colorist

ZANDIE IS NOT A--
AN IDIOT!

NO? WHAT WOULD YOU CALL
A TEENAGER WHO STILL
PLAYS WITH TOYS?

OH, PIRG, CAN'T YOU
BE MORE UNDER-
STANDING? ZANDIE
DIDN'T ASK TO BE
BORN SLOW-
WITTED!

WHOM DID HE INHERIT
IT FROM-- YOU OR
YOUR FIRST
HUSBAND?

HEY, PIRG! DID YOU SEE THIS
NEW DOLL THAT MOM
BOUGHT ME?

IT'S A RZOVIAN
LIZARD-MAN!

WHERE DO YOU THINK I SHOULD
PUT HIM, PIRG? MOM SAYS
HE'D LOOK GOOD BETWEEN
THE GORLONDIAN ICE-BAT
AND THE THANAGARIAN
SPIDER!

BLAST IT! YOU THINK ALL
I HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT
IS YOUR STUPID DOLL-
COLLECTION?

IF IT WERE UP
TO ME, I'D
BREAK YOUR
"LIZARD-MAN"
INTO A
THOUSAND...

SUDDENLY...

EEEEEEK!

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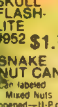
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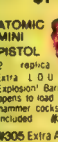
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 Special spring released mechanism
 sets off cap causing a BIG B-A-N-G!
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 Just light one—
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 fill the room. Bag of
 smoke bombs
 #222 \$2.00

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 #153 \$1.50
 Great MAGIC TRICK!
 Insert a blank piece
 of paper into the
 machine, turn the
 knob. Presto!
 From the other
 side comes a
 gravely hidden REAL
 DOLLAR BILL!
 #750 \$1.75

 **EVERLITE CANDLES**
 Cannot be blown out
 Great Gag!
 #705 \$1.60

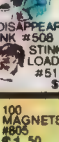
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 2 replica
 Extra LOUD
 Explosion! Barrel
 opens to load
 hammer cocks & fires. Ramrod
 included
 #306 \$2.00
 #305 Extra Ammo-Pak 500

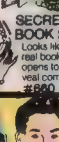
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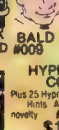
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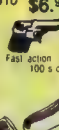
 **TEN-IN-ONE SCOPE**
 #030 \$1.75

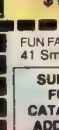
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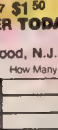
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 opens to re-
 veal combination lock safe
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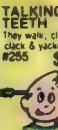
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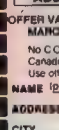
 **SHOCK BOOK**
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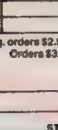
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CITY	STATE	ZIP	

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PIRG!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

WE'VE BEEN
CAUGHT-- IN A
COSMIC STORM!

THE SHIP'S OUT OF CONTROL--
IT CAN'T TAKE ALL THIS POUNDING!
GET TO THE ESCAPE PODS AND--

FOR LONG HOURS, THE
SHIP TOPPLES AIMLESSLY,
TILL CAUGHT IN A DENSE
ASTEROID & GRAVITA-
TIONAL FIELD--

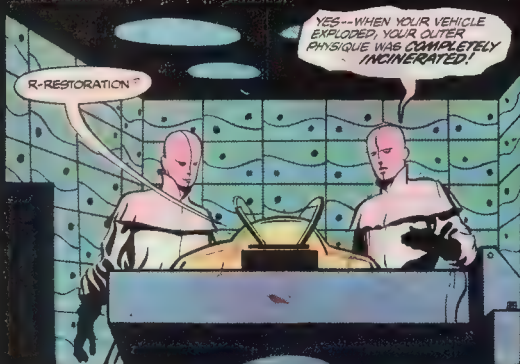
UHHH--!

THAT...AT
LAST...

WHEN CONSCIOUSNESS FINALLY RETURNS
TO A BEWILDERED BRAIN...

WHAT--?
WH-WHERE...?

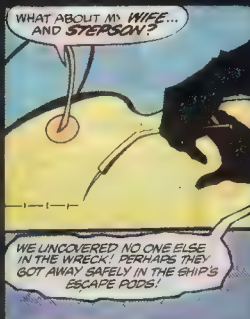
PATIENCE... RESTORATION
IS NEARLY COMPLETE!



R-RESTORATION™

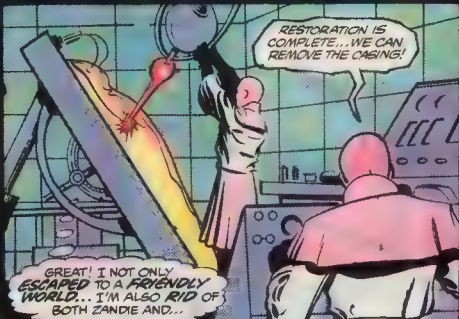
YES--WHEN YOUR VEHICLE
EXPLODED, YOUR OUTER
PHYSIQUE WAS **COMPLETELY**
INCINERATED!

LUCKILY, YOU WERE
FOUND ALIVE... AND
WITH OUR SURGICAL
EQUIPMENT, WE WERE
ABLE TO RESTORE
YOUR FEATURES!



WHAT ABOUT MY WIFE...
AND STEPHEN?

WE UNCOVERED NO ONE ELSE
IN THE WRECK! PERHAPS THEY
GOT AWAY SAFELY IN THE SHIP'S
ESCAPE PODS!



RESTORATION IS
COMPLETE... WE CAN
REMOVE THE CASING!

GREAT! I NOT ONLY
ESCAPED TO A **FRIENDLY**
WORLD... I'M ALSO RID OF
BOTH ZANDIE AND...



OMIGOD--!
WHAT HAVE
YOU TURNED
ME INTO?

FORGIVE US IF OUR WORK IS NOT
PERFECT! SINCE YOUR **ORIGINAL**
FEATURES WERE **COMPLETELY DESTROYED**...



... WE MODELED YOU
AFTER THIS REPLICA, WHICH
SOMEHOW **SURVIVED**
THE CRASH!

?GASP! Z-ZANDIE'S
LIZARD-MAN!

-end

WITHIN EACH OF US, IT IS SAID, THERE DWELLS A POWER TO PIERCE THE INFINITE LIMITS OF SPACE AND TIME! SECRETLY, UNBIDDEN, THIS FORCE CAN SURFACE WITHOUT WARNING, LIKE A BOLT...

OUT OF THE ELECTRIC BLUE

DEEP FESTERING,
POISONOUS *SUSPICION*...
HOW LONG COULD IT GO
UNCHECKED?

WELL, YOU DON'T
FOOL ME, MR. IRWIN
MORGENHEIMER!

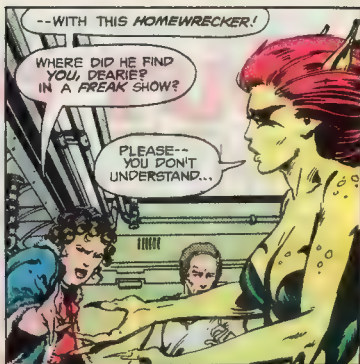
IF HE'S UP TO SOME
HANKY-PANKY, I'LL
THRASH HIM GOOD AND--

IT TAKES MORE THAN A
"HOBBY" TO LURE A MAN
FROM HIS WIFE, NIGHT
AFTER NIGHT!

IT'S NEARLY DAWN, AND
HE'S STILL IN HIS
RADIO SHACK!

IRWIN!

HAZEL!



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O.K. Mike Marvel, enclosed is my \$5.00. Send me your entire Scientific Isometric Dynaflex System in one book which includes a chapter on "SECRETS OF ATTRACTING GIRLS." I must agree that the Dynaflex method has given me powerfully-toned muscles, put full strength in my muscles, made me so strong that I can be proud to show my friends how strong I am. And it must do this in 10 minutes a day — with nothing else to buy — now or in the future. I get my \$5 back — with no questions asked upon return of the book.

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THE POWER...
IT'S FADING--
REMOVING US!

NO,
GLIANNE!
I NEED
YOU--I...



SH-SHE'S GONE!

AND THE
RADIO--MY
ONLY HOPE OF
SEEING HER
AGAIN...
DESTROYED!



A SHORT WHILE LATER,
AS RWIN WORKED AT A
FEVERED PITCH...

WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?
THE NEIGHBORS REPORTED
A LOT OF SCREAMING!

PLEASE--
NOT NOW...
I MUST
REPAIR MY
RADIO!



MOTHER OF MERCY!
THIS WOMAN... HER
THROAT'S BEEN RIPPED
OUT!

YES -- BY
THE SLOTH!



THE WHO?

THE
WHAT?

THE VERJAN SLOTH...
IT THOUGHT MY WIFE WAS
ATTACKING GLIANNE!



UH... YOU'D
BETTER
COME WITH
US, SIR!

BUT--
THE
RADIO...
IT'S NOT
FIXED
YET!

YOU CAN FIX IT LATER--
IF HEADQUARTERS
RELEASES YOU!

BUT THERE WAS NO RELEASE--ONLY QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS--AND MORE QUESTIONS ...

I'M DR. LORNE, THE POLICE PSYCHIATRIST!

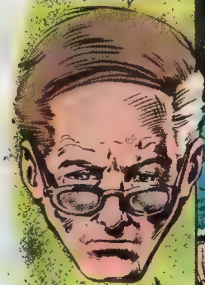
THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY ASKED ME TO SPEAK WITH YOU!



TO FIND OUT IF I'M CRAZY, YOU MEAN!



OH, I ADMIT I'M WORRIED--FRANTIC--BUT NOT INSANE!



GLIANNE-- THE SLOTH-- THEY'RE AS REAL AS YOU ARE...

"IT ALL BEGAN WITH WHAT I'D CALL A TYPICAL NIGHT AT HOME...

DID YOU HEAR SALLY'S HUSBAND BOUGHT HER A MINK COAT, IRWIN?



YES, I HEARD!

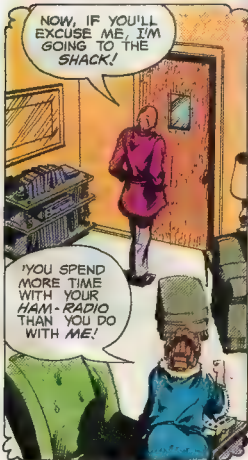
REALLY, HAZEL-- ALL THAT CANDY IS BAD FOR YOUR FIGURE!

NEVER MIND MY FIGURE! WHEN ARE YOU BUYING ME A MINK?



I'M NOT A WEALTHY MAN, HAZEL... YOU KNEW THAT WHEN YOU MARRIED ME!

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'M GOING TO THE SHACK!



YOU SPEND MORE TIME WITH YOUR HAM-RADIO THAN YOU DO WITH ME!

WELL, WHAT MORE CAN I EXPECT?



YOU'RE RIGHT, IRWIN... I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO MARRY A SPINELESS PANTYWAIST!

"YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS-- BUT, IN A WAY, I FELT SORRY FOR MY WIFE ...



POOR HAZEL... SHE REALLY NEEDS SOMEONE MORE AMBITIOUS THAN I!

"I MUST HAVE LOST TRACK
OF MY VOLTAGE-INPUT,
BECAUSE, SUDDENLY...



"BUT MORE MIND-
BOGGLING WAS THE
AFTER-EFFECT...

THOSE STRANGE
IMAGES...GOOD
LORD! I'M
HALLUCINATING!



OH, HOW BEAUTIFUL YOU
ARE! IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T
A-- A DREAM!



I AM NOT A DREAM...
I AM A LIVING,
BREATHING BEING!

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...
HOW IS THIS
POSSIBLE?

THE MASSIVE
ELECTRICITY...
IT WAS BEAMED ON
THE WAVELENGTHS
OF MY PLANET,
CALLED YERJA!



SOMEHOW, IT
CONVERTED ME INTO
RADIO-ENERGY AND
TELEPORTED ME!



ISN'T IT MARVELOUS?
YOU CAN NOW BRING ME HERE
WHenever YOU WISH!

"FROM THEN ON, SHE
CAME TO VISIT ME
OFTEN...

I MISSED YOU,
GLIANNE!



I MISSED YOU
TOO, IRWIN!

"IN THE NIGHTS AHEAD, I LEARNED MANY THINGS ABOUT GLIANNE AND HER WORLD..."

WHAT AN *EXQUISITE* FRAGRANCE!

LIKE EVERYTHING ON YERJA, THE FLOWER KNOWS NO UGLINESS, NO SICKNESS!

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THIS TWO-DIMENSIONAL IMAGE, WE YERJANS ARE *MILLENNIA* AHEAD OF EARTH-CIVILIZATION!

YERJAN SLOTHS ARE THE GENTLEST PETS IN THE UNIVERSE--UNTIL THEIR MASTERS ARE THREATENED!

THEN, WATCH OUT!

"BUT MOST OF ALL, I LEARNED TO LOVE..."

YOU MAKE ME FEEL WANTED, NEEDED, GLIANNE!

WHEN HAZEL THREATENED GLIANNE, THE SLOTH REACTED NATURALLY!

YOU BELIEVE ME, DON'T YOU?

IT IS I WHO WANT--I WHO NEED--MY BEAUTIFUL EARTHYMAN!

I--I'M NOT SURE...

IT'S THE *WILDEST* STORY I'VE EVER HEARD...YET, EVERY GUT-INSTINCT TELLS ME YOU'RE *SANE*--TELLING THE TRUTH!

YES, IRWIN-- I DO BELIEVE YOU!

BUT AFTER A BRIEF TRIAL, THE JURY DECIDED OTHERWISE...

WE FIND THE DEFENDANT GUILTY OF FIRST-DEGREE MURDER!

FOR THIS "CRIME," SENTENCE
WAS MANDATORY...

I TELL YOU, WARDEN, HE'S
BEING ELECTROCUTED FOR A
KILLING HE DIDN'T COMMIT!

COME
NOW, DR.
LORNE...
HOW CAN ANY
INTELLIGENT
PERSON
BELIEVE
HIS WEIRD
STORY?

TO THE CONDEMNED
MAN, DEATH WAS
ALMOST A RELIEF...

WHO WANTS
TO LIVE
ANYHOW--
WITHOUT
GLIANNE?

BUT NEXT INSTANT,
AS THE TURN OF A
SWITCH RELEASED A
TORRENT OF VOLTAGE...

**THE POWER!
THE POWER
I NEEDED,
IRWIN, MY
DARLING!**

GLIANNE!
IS IT REALLY
YOU?

**COME TO ME,
DEAREST...**

WARDEN!
SOMETHING'S
WRONG!
CUT THE
CURRENT!

AS THE LAST FAINT
SPARK SUBSIDED...

OH... MY... GOD!
HE-- HE'S
VANISHED...
DISINTEGRATED!

EITHER
THAT,
WARDEN...

...OR HE'S
ESCAPED
TO A
HAPPIER
PLACE--
WITH HIS
BELOVED
GLIANNE!

END



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